

**From:** Tom Jones  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/23/02 12:58pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft settlement

I am a computational biologist at Washington University in St. Louis Medical School. I am in favor of ruling as strongly as possible \_against\_ Microsoft in the current case.

Microsoft is clearly an abusive monopoly, or near-monopoly. If Microsoft is not reined in, it will continue to swing its weight around, taking all it can for itself like an arrogant, champion weightlifter in a 2nd grade lunch line.

If you do not draw lines, and demonstrate that unacceptable behavior has real consequences, then you have given every megacorporation a pass that says:

```
*****  
**                **  
** Do Whatever You Like **  
**                **  
*****
```

As two trivial examples of how Microsoft continues to exploit their position in the market to shut out competition, even in the face of the ongoing DoJ trial:

(1) Microsoft blocked "independent" web browsers (Opera, Mozilla) from accessing their MSN site, demanding that users download Internet Explorer to view the web site. (Oct, 2001)

Ref:  
[http://news.com.com/2100-1023-274980.html?legacy=cnet&tag=tp\\_pr](http://news.com.com/2100-1023-274980.html?legacy=cnet&tag=tp_pr)

(2) Microsoft's April '01 deal with Qwest will move current qwest.net ISP customers over to MSN. After the transition, Netscape mail will no longer function for these customers!

"MSN e-mail is not compatible with the Netscape e-mail client"  
--from: [www.qwest.net/nav4/msn/faq.html#services](http://www.qwest.net/nav4/msn/faq.html#services)

Further, the correspondence sent to qwest.net customers leads the customer to believe that they must use a Microsoft email client after the move to MSN. Anecdotal evidence suggests that persistent tech support calls may provide non-trivial solution that allows use of a non-MS email client.

Ref:  
i) <http://slashdot.org/article.pl?sid=01/10/17/143230&mode=thread>

ii) personal communication with a qwest.net customer in Oregon

This is only the tip of the iceberg of Microsoft's insulting, galling, arrogant, monopolistic behavior that they continue to engage in. If you crumple, and you only give Microsoft a light slap on the wrist, you are smashing a bottle of champagne over the prow of a new era of American monopolistic greed.

Punish Microsoft!

Sincerely,

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